

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
SMS-01 EB-08 IO-13 TRSE-00 COME-00 LAB-04 SIL-01
/093 W

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R 241216Z AUG 78
FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 291
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL IZMIR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISTANBUL 2643

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, ELAB, TU
SUBJECT: DISK CRITICIZES GOT CONCESSIONS TO "CAPITALIST-
IMPERIALISM"

REF: ANKARA 5707

1. AT AUGUST 22 MEETING IN ISTANBUL, LEFTIST DISK LABOR
CONFEDERATION PRESIDENT, ABDULLAH BASTURK CRITICIZED GOT FOR
BECOMING "BUSOM BUDDIES" WITH IMPERIALISM. IN OPENING SPEECH TO
DISK, EXECUTIVE BOARD CONVENED TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION
OF RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT CONFEDERATION'S RECENT GENERAL MEETING
(REFTEL), BASTURK ACCUSED "CAPITALIST-IMPERIALIST" SYSTEM
OF IMPOSING HEAVY CONDITIONS ON TURKEY DURING "GREATEST ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL CRISIS OF ITS HISTORY." HE CHARGED THAT PRIME MINISTER
ECEVIT'S REPUBLICAN PEOPLES PARTY (RPP) GOVERNMENT HAD NOT
DISPLAYED SUFFICIENT STRENGTH TO RESIST THESE PRESSURES. AS
ALTERNATIVE TO WESTERN TIES, BASTURK SUGGESTED THERE WERE GOOD
POSSIBILITIES FOR CLOSER RELATIONS WITH NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES
AND "SOCIALIST SYSTEM", BUT THESE POSSIBILITIES HAVE NOT BEEN
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ADEQUATELY DEVELOPED. REGARDING "SOCIAL CONTRACT", VAGUELY
DEFINED AGREEMENT BETWEEN TURK-IS LABOR CONFEDERATION AND
GOT FOR HOLDING DOWN WAGE DEMANDS, BASTURK, WHO HAS PREVIOUSLY
REJECTED PARTICIPATION IN SUCH A SCHEME, COMMENTED THAT SUBJECT
WAS NOT ON AGENDA FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING.

COMMENT: DISK'S QUARTER OF A MILLION MEMBERS WERE IMPORTANT

FACTOR IN LARGE RPP PLURALITY IN JUNE 1977 ELECTIONS, PARTICULARLY
IN LARGE URBAN CENTERS LIKE ISTANBUL, AND NUMBER
OF LEFT-WING RPP DEPUTIES HAVE CLOSE TIES WITH CONFEDERATION.
IF DISK PURSUES STRONG OPPOSITION TO WHAT ARE PERCEIVED AS
"CONCESSIONS" TO WESTERN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, POLITICAL COST
TO PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT FOR IMPOSING AUSTERITY MEASURES WILL
BE BOOSTED EVEN HIGHER.
HOUGHTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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